



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney

Northern District of New York

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News Release

Richard S. Hartunian, United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, announced today that **JAMES IZYK**, age 49, of Oswego, New York entered guilty pleas in U.S. District Court in Syracuse, New York to making a false statement and defrauding the U.S. Postal Service, U.S. Department of Labor, and the Social Security Administration of \$33,884. **IZYK**, a former Sales and Service Associate with the U.S. Post Office in Oswego, N.Y., admitted he made false representations to obtain federal workers compensation and Social Security disability benefits. Each felony offense, violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and § 1920, carry a maximum sentence of 5 years incarceration, and a \$250,000 fine.

In entering his guilty pleas before the Hon. Norman A. Mordue, Chief U.S. District Judge, **IZYK** admitted that he falsely represented that a work-related injury prevented him from performing any type of duties with the U.S. Postal Service. Based upon those false representations, **IZYK** received workers compensation benefits.

IZYK also admitted that he falsely completed a written Social Security Administration

Functional Capacity Evaluation and Continuing Disability Review Report, in connection with his receipt of Social Security Disability Benefits. **IZYK** reported that since June 30, 2006, there had been no change in his physical condition and that his physical condition prevented him from working, lifting objects over three pounds, doing yard work, and tying his shoes. Based upon those representations, **IZYK** remained eligible for disability benefits from the Social Security Administration. During the investigation, federal agents observed and video-recorded **IZYK** landscaping his lawn, pushing a loaded wheelbarrow weighing in excess of 225 pounds, building a flagstone retaining wall, lifting a lawn mower, and carrying heavy objects.

Sentencing has been set for September 9, 2010, in Syracuse, New York.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General and the Social Security Administration Office of Inspector General.

Further information regarding this case can be obtained by contacting Assistant United States Attorney Tamara Thomson at (315) 448-0672.

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